

Focus On: David Goings



How did you get involved with photography with stereo?

I came to photography through my interest in stereo. I got hooked first by the 'Magic Eye' single image stereographs & then by Stereoview cards after my wife bought me a Holmes Viewer & a few cards for Christmas one year. After collecting cards for a while I decided I wanted to try & make my own. I figured I would have to take a lot of pictures learning what I was doing, so, in the fall of 2000 I bought the cheapest digital camera I could find & began experimenting with sequential images. That first camera taught me what I wanted in a second, which taught me what I wanted in a third, twin Kodak DC290's that I am currently using.

How did you learn about the Detroit Stereographic Society?

I found a link to the DSS website off a list, sometime after I'd joined NSA & attended the Buffalo convention. At Buffalo, I met Shab Levy & SSA & joined a print folio the following fall.

At the Riverside NSA, I met Tom Dory & Dan Shelly & joined APEC III, a Stereoview Exchange and DSEC, another Stereoview Exchange, but using a 4x6 (Thorpe) format. Robert Thorpe, secretary of DSEC, puts the 4x6" views into clear sleeves that are spiral bound into a 'flip book' whose covers are 7" wide, allowing the book to be placed in a viewer & flipped through.

What are your favorite subjects, equipment, techniques?

Almost any subject, when the composition creates an image that is interesting to me as a stereoview. My cameras now are twin Kodak DC290's. I also still take a lot of sequential images.

Do you collect any stereo-related items?

Stereoview Cards, primarily, but also have the beginnings of a book collection, mostly collections of stereo images, SIRDS/SIS (most of the 'Magic Eye series, etc.) , pairs & anaglyphs.

Do you have any advice or tips to pass along? Any important lessons you have learned?

Joining an SSA Folio provided me the biggest boost in terms of understanding stereo print basics. I was fortunate to land in a group with good stereographers who are also good instructors, who have been able to use my own cards as examples. Ernie Rairden and Shab Levy explained basics to me by scanning & re-cropping my own images. They then returned the re-cropped image to me with comments explaining what they'd done & why. Very helpful.. This was in addition to the helpful comments from everyone that come back to me, written on the envelope that holds the view.

APEC III and DSEC have also provided good feedback, as well as a growing collection of contemporary work from some pretty good stereographers.

What are your future plans and goals in stereography?

I would like to get together with others in the club who are interested in making print views. I like this format, as each image can be accompanied by a back that gives context for the view...the original multi-media format.

I think I'd like to try & output a couple of images to slide & see how they look projected. I've never mounted a slide & would like to learn about whatever additional lookouts there are when projecting an image as opposed to printing it for a viewer.

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